S.No.	Maharashtra Variety	Kapas Price Price (Rs. Qt) in Maharashtra	Equivalent variety in other States	State where grown	Price Range (Rs/Qt) in other States
			Bikaneri Narma SG DCH-32	Haryana Rajasthan	
5.	DCH-32	Not Grown in Maharashtra	DCH-32	Karnataka	2600-2230

Cotton Bales for export fails to find customers in the International Market

550. SHRI K.M. SAIFULLA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the quota of several lakh bales of cotton recently released for export by the Ministry is not findings customers in the international market; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Profit and Loss Incurred by the Mills of National Textile Corporation

551. SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA NAHATA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of NTC mills which earned profit in 1995-96 and 1996-97;

(b) the number of NTC mills incurred loss in 1995-96 and 1996-97; and

(c) the measures proposed to revive sick mills?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA): (a) and (b) Only one mill out of 120 mills has made a provisional net profit during 1996-97 (April-September, 96). All the remaining 199 mills have made net losses in 1996-97. During the year 1995-96, all the 120 NTC mills had incurred net losses.

(c) Due to continuous losses and total net worth erosion, 8 out of 9 subsidiary corporations of NTC have been referred to the BIFR which has declared them to be sick industrial companies. Government have approved a Revised Turn Around Plan for rehabilitation of NTC, involving modernisation of 79 mills at an outlay of Rs. 2005.72 crores, restructuring of 36 unviable mills into 18 viable units etc. The plan has been placed before the BIFR for its approval before implementation. The funds for modernisation will be met out of the proceeds of sale of surplus lands and assets of NTC. Once the BIFR approves the plan and funds are raised from sale of surplus lands and assets, the rehabilitation plan will be implemented leading to revival of NTC mills.

MIRA Seth Panel Report

552. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: SHRI W. ANGOU SINGH:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Mira Seth Panel set up by the Government to identify the bottlenecks in the way of development of the handloom sector has submitted its report to Textiles Minister recently as reported in the Hindustan Times dated 27th January, 1997;

(b) if so, the main recommendations made by the Committee; and

(c) The action Government have taken so far to improve the lot of weavers

particularly by way of credit facilities under various schemes?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A Statement is annexed (*See* below).

(c) Government from time to time have taken necessary steps for adequate availability of the concessional refinance to the handloom weavers under the NABARD Scheme. The flow of the credit to the handloom sector has progressively increased from Rs. 382.28 crores to Rs. 557.57 crores from the year 1992-93 to 1995-96 respectively.

Statement

Main recommendations of the Ms. Mira Seth Committee on Handlooms

1. All major heandloom concentrated States may set up a separate Departments of Handlooms. State Handloom Corporations and Apex Societies should be revitalised by providing suitable rehabilitation package.
2. A National Handloom Credit Fund with a Corpus of atleast of Rs. 500 crores may be set up for providing credit to the weavers outside the cooperative fold.
3. NABARD may consider waiving the provisions with regard to the guarantee cover in respect of limits sanctioned. Loss Guarantee Scheme may be introduced to protect the interest of the Banks. The Credit for trading in yarn may also be re-financed at 9½% interest rate.
4. All State Government may exempt Hank Yarn and Handloom products from any tax, including Sales tax, entry tax and Octroi.
5. Wide Spread availability of testing facilities, particularly in the handloom concentrated areas may be ensured and a scheme may be introduced to make the handloom Corporations/apex Societies achieved and other BIS-14000/150-9000 standards.
6. A National handloom Centre may be set up to maintain handloom collection of contemporary excellence, to document the information of handlooms and to undertake research on handlooms.
7. Marketing complexes including handloom heats and permanent exhibition sites at Village, sub-division, district and town level in large numbers may be set up by the Central/State Governments or their agencies.
8. A comprehensive project package for development of exportable products should be developed.
9. A Calamity Relief Scheme may be introduced to provide support for purchase of handlooms and other accessories, subsidy on purchase of Hank Yarn under hank yarn Subsidy scheme, enhanced availability of credit, ensured buy-back of production and to provide immediate relief under various ongoing Schemes of the State Governments.
10. Welfare Schemes may include all handloom workers and not just weavers. Coverage of Handloom workers under the Welfare Schemes of the Handlooms should be substantially stepped up both in cooperative and outside the cooperative fold.
11. Special thrust under ongoing Schemes of handlooms sector may be given for overall development of North-Eastern States, by providing additional financial input, where required.

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Issuance of show cause notice to cement companies

553. SHRI AMAR SINGH:
DR. JAGANNATH MISHRA:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Jute Commissioner has recently issued show